GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2562
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
FINANCIAL SERVICES BY POST OFFICES SAVING BANK
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post Office Saving Bank is the largest bank in the country in terms of network, accounts and annual deposits;

(b) if so, whether the Post Office Saving Bank has introduced a number of new financial services in collaboration with the private sector:

(c) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and

(d) the objectives of these new schemes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Dr. S PASWAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Post Office Saving Bank is one of the largest banks in the country in terms of network, accounts and annual deposits.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d): The Department of Posts has introduced a number of new financial services in collaboration with the private sector. The objectives of these new financial services is to provide the common man and the corporates convenient access to modern financial services and products as well as to generate revenue for the Department. The scheme-wise details are given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE

SCHEME-WISE DETAILS OF NEW FINANCIAL SERVICES.

- International Money Transfer Service: This service, operated in association with Western union, provides the customers the facility of receiving remittances from more than 190 countries on a real time basis. The service has been operational since April 2001 and is currently available from over 1000 post offices. The service helps Non Resident Indians in particular to remit money home instantaneously.

- Mutual Funds & Securities Distribution: Since February 2001, a growing network of nearly 200 Post Offices is distributing select mutual funds and Bonds. The service while extending the reach of the capital market of the country also provides the common man easy access to market based investment options.

- Electronic Funds Transfer service: Introduced in October 2001, this Service leverages the VSAT network of the Department to Facilitate end-to-end fund transfers by Banks on behalf of the corporate sector as well as the Capital Market.

- Warrant Payment Scheme: The Post Office provides a single window facility to issue and pay out warrants across the country.